



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210

PO Box 145801

Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

801-538-5340

801-359-3940 (Fax)

801-538-7223 (TDD)

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor

Lowell P. Braxton
Division Director

December 8, 1999

To: File

Thru: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor *pgl*
Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor *RH*

From: Peter Hess, Reclamation Specialist III *PH*

RE: Reclaim Feeder at SC-11, Plateau Mining Corporation, Willow Creek Mine,
ACT/007/038-99G, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

SUMMARY:

On December 6, 1999, Plateau Mining Corporation submitted a minor permit amendment to add a second reclaim feeder/stub conveyor in the vicinity of surface conveyor SC-11 at the Willow Creek Preparation Plant. The permittee feels that the addition of this second reclaim unit is necessary should additional enhancement of the ash fusion temperature requirement be necessary. This will allow the permittee to custom blend its product to meet varying customer coal specifications.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

OPERATION PLAN

ENGINEERING INTRODUCTION

Regulatory Reference: R645-301-510.

Analysis:

Activities Associated with Coal Mining

The installation of the first reclaim feeder/stub conveyor at conveyor SC-7 (permitted through ACT/007/038-99E) was to enhance the ash fusion temperature specification requirement. The permittee is requesting the addition of a second reclaim feeder/stub

Reclaim Feeder at SC-11

ACT/007/038-99G

December 8, 1999

Page 2

conveyor at surface conveyor SC-11 as different coal contracts have different ash fusion temperature requirements, (i.e., IPA coal shipments require more added BTU resource material than do export shipments). Plateau Mining will be able to custom blend coal shipments relative to ash fusion requirements, which is a positive selling point in coal sale's negotiations. As was discussed in 99E, the recovered BTU resource material recovered from School House Canyon also enhances the recovery of the coal resource and adds life to the use of the refuse disposal facility.

The application submits a red line version of page 4.5-67 (Volume 3 of Operating Plans and Design Criteria) discussing the addition of the second reclaim feeder/stub conveyor. A stockpile of recovered BTU resource material will be stored in the same fashion as coal and will be made in the clean coal stockpile area in close proximity to the hopper of this proposed reclaim feeder. All runoff from the area reports to pond 011A.

Findings:

The revised page 4.5-67 adequately addresses the requirement of the aforementioned R645 rule.

MAPS, PLANS, CROSS SECTIONS OF MINING OPERATIONS

Regulatory Reference: R645-301-512.120; 521.164.

Analysis:

Surface Facilities and Operations Coal Storage and Loading Areas

Proposal ACT/007/038-99G includes revised Map 18B, Willow Creek Mine Surface Facilities Map which shows two locations designated as **103, Coal Reclaim Feeder**. The first location was permitted under ACT/007/038-99E on surface conveyor SC-7. The second (which is being permitted through this amendment) is shown 130 feet NW of the clean coal stacking tube/stockpile. The revised Map 18B received a new P.E. certification on December 3, 1999 from Richard B. White of EarthFax Engineering, Inc.

Findings:

The revised Map 18B, Willow Creek Mine Surface Facilities adequately addresses the requirements of R645-301-512.120 and 301-521.164.

Reclaim Feeder at SC-11
ACT/007/038-99G
December 8, 1999
Page 3

RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

Based on the aforementioned findings, it is recommended that **ACT/007/038-99G** be given conditional approval, pending submittal of the required number of clean copies.

sd
O:\COAL\WP\007038.WIL\FINAL\feedSC11.99G.wpd